Stony Brook Day

Info on Open House Page 3



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The Dream Continues



Martin Luther King, III a Human Rights Advocate, Community Activist and Political Leader, Lectures during Black History Month

USB Takes the Capitol

Nearly 500 Students and Faculty Attend Stony Brook Day at Albany

By Chris Latham Statesman Editor

An estimated 500 students and faculty members gathered in the South P Parking Lot Tuesday in the bitter cold before the crack of dawn, to represent their university in the state capitol.

Their goal was to speak on the school's behalf, and petition for more financial support before the New York State Assembly. Continuing what has become a yearly event, the gathering began the sixth annual Stony Brook Day at Albany.

"If it were not for the legislature we would be in bad shape, but the truth is that Stony Brook received much more funding 10 years ago," said Bill Godfrey, coordinator of the classics studies program in the European languages department. "A lot of other universities are trying to outflank us to get more money, so we have to make ourselves be heard."

During the four and a half hour bus ride to Albany, Godfrey explained that Stony Brook Day is technically not a lobbying effort, but an opportunity to inform legislators of why the school is worth more funding. Once in Albany, students were separated into groups of 15 to 20 members, and led by a faculty team member. Each group was assigned six specific legislators to speak with during the three and a

half hour visit to Albany's Legislative Building. The team leader often set the tone, but students generally explained how they have benefited from Stony Brook, and how the school's lack of financial support has affected them.

Ruth Cowan, chair of the Honors College, and Laurie Fiegel, the Honors College administrative director, acted as team leaders for two such groups.

"The intention of the Honors College is to attract the best students, and I think we do a good job, but we would like to do more," Cowan said, speaking with Assemblywoman Margaret Markey (Dem). "The truth is that there's never enough money. We're now only able to support 250 students, which is point five percent of the school's population. We would at least like to make the Honors College reach one percent."

Cowan cited how the limited scholarship support the Honors College offers can be dissuading to high school graduates getting better financial packets from private and out-of-state schools. She explained that one way to combat that situation would be to increase the scholarship amount from \$2,000 to \$5,000, and to extend the time of the aid from covering only the first year to all four years of undergraduate study.

Markey explained that she would pass her support on to assemblyman Edward Sullivan, who is proposing HERA, a five-year higher education reinvestment act.

But she warned that New York doesn't support higher education as much as other states, and that the dual nature of the state legislature "makes for an interesting time" when it comes to allocating funds.

The meeting lasted ten minutes, and although she seemed receptive, Cowan's group was skeptical about their impact. "She been a politician for a while, She's good at what she does," said Carol Russer, a parent of an Honors College student.

Ultimately, that would be the sentiment for the rest of the day. Half of the representatives Cowan and Fiegel's groups visited were unavailable, having their assistants serve in their stead. Those representatives that were present followed something similar to Markey's approach, polite and receptive, but noncommittal.

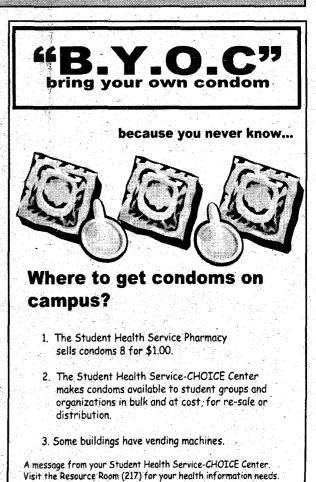
The Honors College teams linked up with other student groups in subsequent meetings, such as in the office of Assemblyman George Winner Jr. (Rep), where his assistant

Continued on page 5

Please note:

The Statesman Open House scheduled for Wednesday Feb. 21 has been cancelled. It has been rescheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 28 during Campus Lifetime in room 057 in the Union.





"The Dream Deferred"

Martin Luther King III Speaks on American Society and his Father's Dream

By Erin Dueñas Statesman Editor

Speaking to an audience that filled the SAC auditorium and spilled into the SAC lobby, Martin Luther King III delivered a speech as part of the President's Lecture Series Celebrating Diversity, titled The Dream

The oldest son of famed civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr. was introduced by Stony Brook president Shirley Strum Kenny, who said that it was a special privilege to welcome King to Stony Brook. "He has taken the torch from his father in delivering his messages of hope and responsibility," Kenny said. King then took to the podium to audience applause.

After thanking Kenny as well as members of the Stony Brook community, King began a talk that touched on a number of the major issues and problems that plague American society including violence, racism and negativity. To begin, he wished the audience a happy valentine's day and expressed his pleasure at speaking during Black History Month.

"African American History Month is a time to celebrate the contributions of African Americans to the nation and the world," King said. "Although we didn't get the full 31 days and it's the coldest month of the year, I believe we should celebrate." King said that he remembered a time when black history was remembered during Negro History Week. "I live for the day when we study the history of all people," King said. "Everyone's history should be told because every culture brings something to the table."

Engaging the audience in speech that was eloquent and at times amusing, King reflected on the day that Martin Luther King Day became a holiday. It was in 1983 when then president Ronald Reagan signed it into bill. "But in 2001 we cannot celebrate when too many go to bed hungry, when there are homeless and when there are so many without jobs," King said. He then proceeded to give statistics that spoke of the state of American society. According to King, 77 babies die every day, 5044 children are arrested and 2608 high school students drop out. He also said that while African Americans make up 13 percent of the overall population, 50 percent of the jail population is African American. "I wonder if we are truly embracing my father's dream," King asked. "It terrifies me that people walk around thinking things aren't that bad." King said that we are a better nation than the behavior we are exhibiting. "We have come so far and yet we have regressed so much," he said.

King went on to discuss the issue of racial profiling. He said that blacks are stopped by police officers six times more often than any other group. But he was quick to point out that racial profiling is not restricted to law enforcement. He said that racial profiling occurs in lending institutions, in airport customs and in shopping areas. "Racial profiling must be ended immediately," King

King also mentioned the recent elections. He said that it was proof that every vote does count and he pointed out that the only reason there was an issue with counting votes was because the election was so close. "I didn't think we would have to come back to make sure every vote is counted. We have to make sure that never happens again," King said to audience applause.

King discussed the importance of images in popular culture. He said that there are too many words in the English language that perpetuate anti-black sentiment. He pointed out that on television, the hero has historically been depicted in all white while the villain is in all black. He said that negative images such as the black sheep and black mail help to perpetuate feelings of negativity. "They even have white cake that they call angel's food and the dark cake they call devil's food," King said to audience chuckles. He said that these negative images are ways in which people learn subliminally. "They manifest themselves in black children who learn to dislike themselves," King said.

He also pointed out the role of the media in perpetuating anti-black stereotypes. He questioned why the plight of poor blacks often makes the news while poor whites are never portrayed. He also questioned why drug use is most often put into an urban hip hop context. "We never hear about the white men on wall



After speaking, King was given a Stony Brook jersey by members of Polity including presidentt Jonnel Doris.

street doing lines before their board meetings," he said.

In spite of the disparities, King maintained that it is important to love because it is all Americans that have problems. "Our destinies are tied together," King said. "Martin Luther King had a dream, not an African American dream but an American dream." King then said that while his father was shot and killed by a white man when he was ten, it was a black man that killed his grandmother when he was sixteen. "It would have been easy for me to embrace hatred," King said. He credited his mother with teaching him to love instead. He said that you can dislike the evil act but still love the individual. "Until we learn to love we are not going to get very far," he said. "There is a higher degree that we have to embrace and I am a living example."

King's message of love was wellreceived but not all students were happy with where they sat during the speech. Graduate student Rhonda Robbins was one of the many who had to sit in the lobby after auditorium seats filled up. King's lecture was broadcast on a screen set up in front of chairs, but he competed with the sounds of the Black Career Expo, held in the lobby. Robbins was angry that another presidential lecture series speaker Rita Moreno spoke in Staller Center. "And yet the son of a leader who potentially changed the world's view of civil rights, justice, equality and peace is only invited to speak at the SAC," Robbins said. "To me it speaks volumes as to how the University values his message and how students need to hear his message."

King Raps After Lecture

By Adam Zimmerman

Statesman Editor

Almost one month after the United States observed a holiday for his father, Martin Luther King III visited Stony Brook yesterday, delivering a lecture on the status of race relations in America. King, founder of Americans United for Affirmative Action and president of the Southern Christian Leadership Council, touched on the 2000 election controversy, racial profiling, affirmative action, and his father's legacy in the lecture, the highlight of Black History

Following his speech, King met with 30 student leaders in a 1960's style rap session. Hosted by President Kenny, the civil rights activist directly addressed student concerns and thoughts as to how we as a nation must come together and rise above racial antagonisms.

"We must develop true friendships in our diverse community," he told the 30 students present. "All people, no matter their race or color, must work together in united coalitions since we all share the same goals of equality."

The discussion focused mainly on how today's young generation can carry the torch that Martin Luther King Jr. passed on following his death. Andrez Carberry, graduate assistant for Student Activities and last year's Polity president, expressed concern that "Generation X" can't seem to find a cause like the young generation of the 1960s. King responded that it is up to student leadership to bring people together to rally around the important issues, especially race.

"Every generation has its own calling," King said. "What this generation becomes and what causes it takes on is up to you."

King stressed that all causes must have a core group of dedicated students who fight from beginning to end. Citing his father as an example, King noted that true leaders will never leave the cause until they see it through

"The masses won't always be there. They will stay for a time, but will eventually move on," he said. "Without that core group of supporters, change won't occur. That is why student leadership needs to stay focused and determined."

Other students said one big problem that needs addressing is student apathy. Helena Soosan, a member of Stony Brook's Community-Based Action Research, said her group often has difficulty with getting strong turnouts for community service events. She went on to say that some students believe that problems facing society are problems that "other people" will deal with, so they don't feel a need to take up the fight themselves. King answered with the idea that change cannot take place without the infusion of young people with new ideas"

"Student activism has always been a key for social change," he said. "It is essential for young people to enter the political and social arena with fresh ideas and positive energy to accomplish our goals."

King also touched on affirmative action 4 after hearing from students who had gained admittance to schools and/or scholarships partly due to their race. He said that affirmative action programs must be implemented not only to atone for prior scrimination, but also to give people a chance for success who otherwise would not have the opportunity, whether in schools, the workforce, or education. Towards the end of the session, King stressed that this is why the political forum plays such an important role in the fight for equality.

"We must get back to the time where 2 politics is seen as an honorable profession," he said. "We need honorable people, like my father before us and student leaders now, to fight for and create change necessary for the benefit of all humankind."

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USB in Albany

Continued from page 2

Nick Spinna sat in for him.

"Our students have the third highest level of borrowing in the nation," said George Meyer, the assistant vice president for presidential initiatives, to Spinna. "And the faculty is so intense about research that we're third behind only Santa Barbara and Michigan in per capita faculty research expenses. Yet a few years ago we crossed the line

where we're now getting less than 50 percent tax payer money."

The Honors College next meeting, with Assemblyman Joseph Robach (Dem), seemed more fruitful. He explained that different campuses have different needs, asserting that some schools take class seating and dorm space as purely internal concerns. But he agreed that a larger budget makes that approach much easier.

"The problem is that the governor sees SUNY as an out-of-state exportation system for grad students, when in fact it's high school graduates who are leaving New York," Robach said.

Robach also mentioned Sullivan's HERA plan. HERA proposes various financial aid, scholarship, tuition reduction faculty retention

and learning incentive programs for SUNY and CUNY students. Each of its 40 proposals are planned to unfold, with continuous funding increases, over five years.

But according to Robach, the final state of the plan rests heavily on the state of the economy, which may or may not change in the coming years. "I have no way of knowing what we changed or did not change, but we were effective advocates for what we wanted to convey," Cowan said. "It's hard to know the results now. In the long run, it depends on what the students got out of it."

Elizabeth Janowski, a sophomore in Fiegel's group, said she found the visit interesting and the

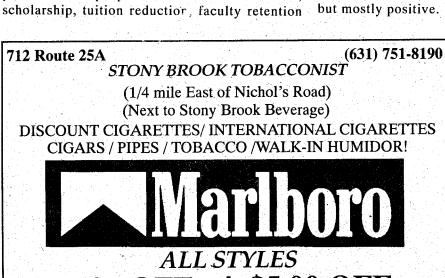
political process impressive, but is concerned that some representatives were less than sincere about their support. "One representative's assistant wasn't being receptive at all," Janowski said. "We were telling him important information about the standard of living in Long Island and how it compares to Stony Brook, but he didn't write anything down. He didn't seem to care."

Frederick Davis, a junior in Fiegel's group, chose to evaluate the experience as it relates to the legislature in

Albany. "While our actual words might be filtered or not remembered when the budget comes up, at least our actions here today will give the bill a face to be remembered," Davis said.

"...the faculty is so intense about research that we're third behind only Santa Barbara and Michigan in per capita faculty research expenses. Yet a few years ago we crossed the line where we're now getting less than 50 percent tax payer money."

The final meetings ended at 3:00 p.m., and the buses departed for Stony Brook by 4:30 p.m. Interpretations of the day's events were mixed, but mostly positive



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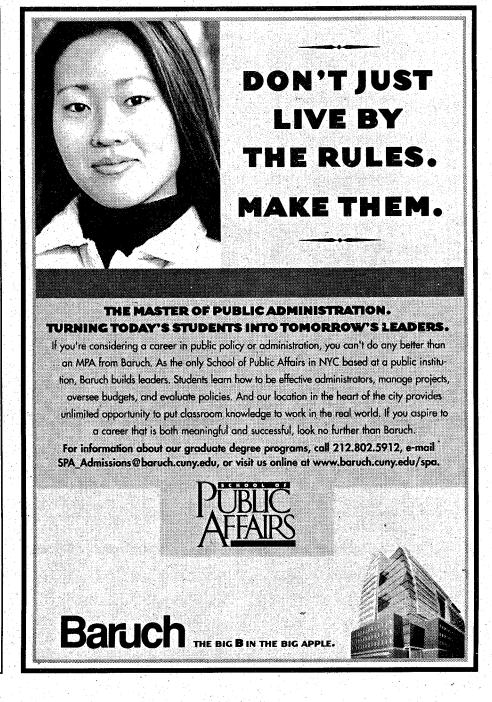
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Editorials

Some Contr oversy Can't Hurt. Can It?

When word first broke that the Student Polity Activities Board was looking to get David Muhammed, a minister in the Nation of Islam, on campus to deliver a speech, this space was used to denounce the guest as a supported the move to block his visit. Since then, debate has swirled around the speaker and those who wanted him here versus those who did not. Various groups have voiced their opinion, both for and against Muhammed and his organization and a number of thought-provoking subjects have arisen. So many that we are now unsure of how we feel about it.

Certain members of the Nation of Islam are known for anti-Semitic remarks, that have at one time or another targeted what would amount to the majority of the campus population. Members of the group have allegedly called Jews "bloodsuckers," have accused whites of being less evolved than blacks, have might bring? stated that women need to be controlled and "maintained" by men and have accused certain blacks, such as Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, of being traitors.

With this in mind, one would question why in the world anyone from this group would be invited to come speak on this campus. But a better question could very well be, why would he not be?

One student and Polity perpetuator of hate and we senator made a good point in the midst of all the discussion that this situation has produced. He said to imagine if Malcolm X would have spoken on campus forty or more years ago. In his prime, this activist was accused of spreading a similar sort of hatred that the Nation of Islam is accused of spreading. But imagine now, what a feather in our cap it would be to say that Malcolm X had come to our campus. History has changed his image so that now he is viewed as more of a hero than a hate monger. Might we be saying the same thing about Muhammed forty years from

> For many, this is a stretch and in reality it probably is. But who knows what the future

> This same astute student also brought up John Ashcroft. The integrity of our latest attorney general continuously been questioned since his nomination. He is known as a conservative, to

use the term lightly, but to many his actions while serving as senator of Missouri are borderline prejudice, homophobic and clearly antichoice, nothing much better than what the minister is accused of. What if it were Ashcroft that were invited to campus? Would he be allowed to come here simply because he is a politician? Perhaps more accurately because he is a white politician?

To further complicate the matter, some have supported Muhammed coming to Stony Brook simply because, whether or not they prescribe to the point of views of his organization, he would incite some debate, discussion and controversy. All of us could agree that Stony Brook could definitely use a jolt. Maybe this is one of the best ways to do it. Is there anything wrong with getting us to think a little, to hone our beliefs a little sharper? Most importantly, maybe it would be beneficial to have him here just to see if all the media hype is true: is the Nation of Islam really the evil, militant group we have all been led to believe?

They very well could be, but how could we know without experiencing it for ourselves?

The morality of the issue is just one side of a situation that is proving to get worse before it gets better. While these philosophical questions are vastly important, another important issue is the legality of it all. According to Polity rules and regulations, no religious event, among others, can be funded with student activity money. Had the visit gone through, \$250 of our money funded would have Muhammed's visit. There is also some debate as to how legal the vote to bring him here was. The moral debate has been cast by the wayside and the technicalities are what are taking precedence.

To clarify, we do not necessarily think Muhammed should not have been allowed to come to campus. But we do not necessarily think he should have been either. There is nothing wrong with wanting to stir up this melting pot, and what better place to do it than on a college campus?

Letter to the Editor:

Sexism in the Calendar **Quote Offends Student**

Dear Editor,

student in the social welfare program and a school. Yesterday i was Campus calandar for the dates when we would be off for spring break. On the top of the March page I noticed a quote for Women's History month.

The quote published in this campus wide calander was, I believe, in very poor

taste. Not only is it the opposite of what Women's I am a graduate History month is all about, it encorages a prejudice way of thinking. While the Stony member of Epsilon Sigma Brook comunity is one in Phi Sorority Inc. at our which all groups should be prided and respected I belive scanning the Stony Brook this quote is an outrage that Residence should not be overlooked.

Here is the quote:

"I don't mind living in a man's world, as long as I can be a woman in it."

-Marilyn Monroe

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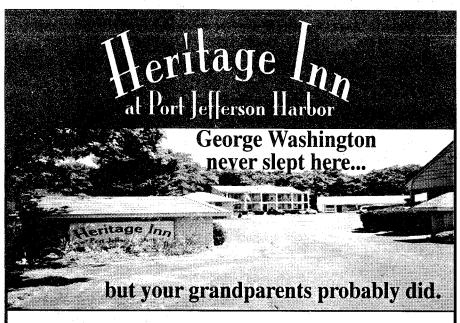
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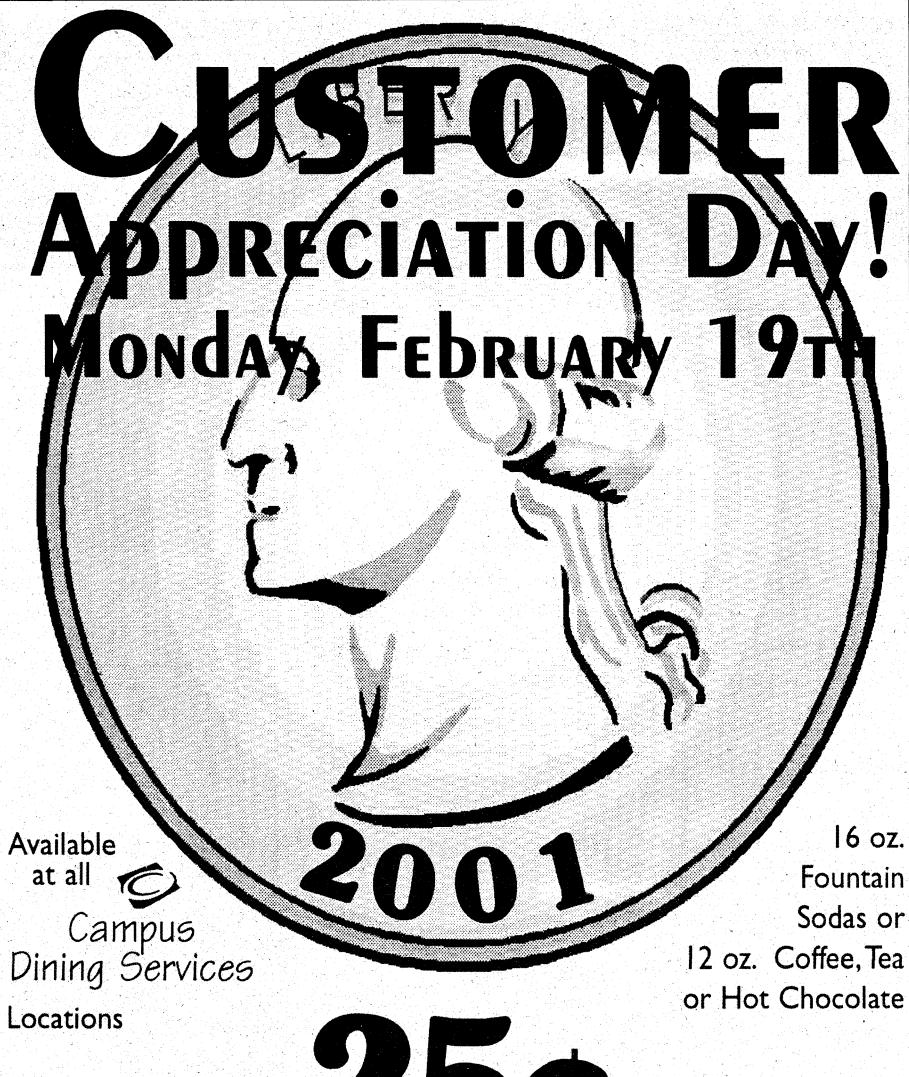
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BEVERAGES!

Winning Streak Continues

LoParrino Carries Seawolves to 11th Home Victory

By Jeffrey Javidfar Statesman Editor

LoParrino Carries Seawolves to 11th Home Victory

Stony Brook (14-10) used a 17-3 run in the opening minutes of the second half to defeat the Red Raiders of Colgate (4-19), 69-59, Saturday afternoon at the USB Sports Complex. The win was Stony Brook's fourth in five games and improved the Seawolves to an impressive 11-1 at home this season.

Theresa LoParrino (#12) blew up for 26 points, including a career-high five three-pointers, as she more than sufficiently shouldered the scoring burden that was brought about by Sherry Jordan's (#15) absence from the lineup.

"She told us that since Sherry's gone we had to step up and I think everyone stepped up today, said LoParrino. "They kept on kicking it out to me, and I kept on shooting, and I was getting them in."

The 5-11 freshman, forward is USB's leading scorer on the season, averaging just over 20-points a contest. Jordan was scratched for this game after injuring her left foot in practice, the preceding Monday. She may be out anywhere from three to eight weeks.

In her stead, Coach Roberts went with all underclassmen in a three-guard lineup of LoParrino, Maggie Triggs (#14) and Jessica Burch (#11). Point guard Jessica Burch entered the game ranked eighth in all of Division I women's basketball in steals per game with 3.8.

"I told them that we needed everybody to step up," Coach Roberts said. "If everybody chipped in and got a little more than they could make up for Sherry."

Missing their go-to-player hurt the Seawolves early in the game, as they seemed unsure about who was suppose to get the ball in pressure situations. Often this led to very poor shots or careless turnovers. Consequently, Colgate got out of the gates quickly behind Colleen McCaffrey's 16 first half points. She had four points during an 8-0 run that gave the Red Raiders their largest lead of the game at 34-24 lead with 2:23 to go in the first half.

Nevertheless, the Seawolves methodically chipped away at the margin and LoParrino's jumper with 29 seconds remaining trimmed the advantage to 36-31, at the half. USB went into the half having committed a glaring 12 turnovers leading to transition 14 points for the Red

Raiders.

Sarah Parks' three-pointer opened the scoring in the second half and gave the Red Raiders some breathing room with an eight point cushion. However, Stony Brook wouldn't go away and countered with a 15-2 run, thanks to six points inside by Erika Shipley (#3), to retake the lead at 52-45. Colgate got as close as 52-50 on Danielle Fields' three-pointer with 10:13 left in the game, but the Red Raiders would get no closer.

Following a timeout, the Seawolves got four points from LoParrino and a three-pointer by Maggie Triggs to push the advantage to 59-50. Triggs' free throw shots with 1:42 to go gave Stony Brook its largest lead of the game at 69-57.

Tamika Cox (#41) played 13 very important minutes in the second half, grabbed seven rebounds and held McCaffrey to just five points and three rebounds. Overall, Cox, the intimidating force in the middle, had a career-high 11 rebounds, two steals and two blocks in relief of Jill George (#35) who was saddled with fouls most of the second half.

"She [Tamika Cox] had to do it. We basically had no other post player," remarked Roberts. "The second half she came in and made some things happen for us."

LoParrino was one of four players in double figures for Stony Brook. Maggie Triggs scored all 11 of her points in the second half to go along with her game-high four assists, and Danielle DeGiorgio (#13) and Jill George each had 10 points and eight rebounds.

McCaffrey led Colgate with 21 points, Malissa Burke had 10 and point guard Alison Hanson collected 10 points and 11 rebounds.

The Seawolves host Albany at home on Saturday at 4:00 p.m. in their final home game of the season.

The Boys Aren't Bad Either

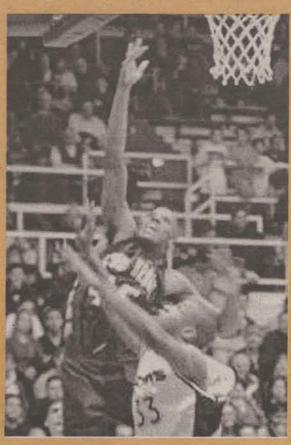
Senior center Leon Brisport led three players in double figures, scoring 28 points and grabbing 13 rebounds as Stony Brook (16-9) downed Maryland-Eastern Shore (8-12), 74-65, Tuesday night at the USB Sports Complex. The win was the seventh straight overall for Stony Brook and its 11th straight at home.

Mohammed N'Diaye's jumper cut Stony Brook's advantage to 44-40 with 10:48 left. But a pair of Jairus McCollum free throws began a 12-5 run and the Seawolves had their largest advantage of the night to that point at 56-45 with 6:52 to play. Mike Konopka had a three-point play during the run and Josh Little buried a three-pointer.

The Fighting Hawks never got closer than eight points the rest of the way. Brisport's lay-up with 3:03 left gave Stony Brook its largest advantage of the night at 65-51 with 3:03 left.

Stony Brook's inside play led the way most of the night. Outside of Brisport's 28 points, McCollum - a freshman forward - had 19 points

Courtesy of www.goseawolves.org



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